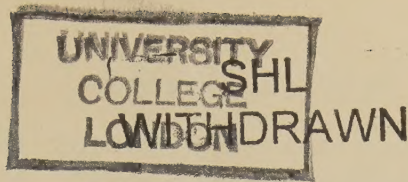


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BULLETIN
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THEOLOGICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL
LIBRARIES

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COMMITTEE FOR 1958

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and British Broadcasting Corporation

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School of Oriental and
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(Hon. Editor of the
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Mr. J. T. Englefield,
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Mrs. J. M. Leonard,
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Birmingham, 29.

Editorial Notes

The Committee for 1958 is set out on the opposite page, and it will be seen that among the officers Mr. Collison was elected Deputy Chairman. Mr. Collison was prominent among those who helped to bring SCOTAPLL into existence, and his account of its formation appeared in an earlier issue of this Bulletin. All members of the Association will wish to join in congratulating him on his appointment as Librarian of the British Broadcasting Corporation. One is tempted to think that this appointment opens up intriguing possibilities; it would, perhaps, be going too far to suggest that lady members of ABTAPL should begin to think about their vital statistics, but who knows what hidden talent may now be discovered and given the opportunity to blossom as a result of the contact we now have with the B.B.C?

The annual report for 1957 which was presented to the Committee by Miss Ferrier showed a membership of 84 at the end of the year, made up of 55 libraries and other institutions, 17 individual members, and 12 overseas subscriptions to the Bulletin. Miss Ferrier adds that we have not yet seriously tried to recruit members from the Cathedral libraries, and that there are numerous overseas colleges which should be interested in subscribing to the Bulletin. Clearly, we have a long way to go in the field of membership and recruitment should be one of the main claims to our attention in the immediate future. The balance-sheet is fortunately healthy, and as a result the Committee has felt able to give the Hon. Editor permission to increase the size of the Bulletin from time to time as the occasion arises.

The Committee has decided, on the basis of the evidence before it, that a meeting at Edinburgh will not be practicable this year; it is proposed to try to organise one at Birmingham instead, probably in the week ending September 20th. It may be that a session will be held at Durham within the next year or so in the hope that it will prove a suitable meeting place for English and Scottish members.

At last year's meeting at Oxford members considered a draft model constitution for local groups of the Association; amendments were proposed, and it was suggested that the provisions governing the relationship between the National Committee and that of a local group should be embodied in the national constitution. As a result, the Committee now has before it two new drafts - a revision of the national Constitution incorporating the provisions mentioned above, and a revised draft model constitution for local groups embodying the amendments proposed at Oxford, and omitting the portions concerning the relationships with the national Committee. Both drafts will come before the September meeting for approval and unless serious defects are found in them, they should serve the Association and its local groups for some years to come.

The first local group to be embodied in the national Association is SCOTAPLL (Standing Conference of Theological and Philosophical Libraries in London) which was really the predecessor of ABTAPL. SCOTAPLL has now elected its own officers for 1958 as follows - Chairman: Miss R. Lehmann (Jews' College); Deputy Chairman: Mr. H.J. Rengert (Deptford Public Library); Hon. Secretary: Miss E. Edmondston (Sion College); Hon Treasurer: Miss J. Ferrier (C.M.S. Library). It is wholly to the good that the committees of the two bodies should be obviously separate - up till now they have been virtually one and the same - and the London Committee can now devote its attention to local needs, leaving the ABTAPL committee to the more rarified atmosphere of national considerations. I hope we shall be able to report SCOTAPLL activities regularly in future.

In the first issue of this Bulletin it was stated that it was the intention to publish, from time to time, accounts of aspects of the library which would be of interest and use to members of the Association. The first such item dealt with the National Central Library and the interlending of books, by Mr. S.P.L. Filon, who has recently been appointed Librarian of the National Central Library in succession to Mr. R.H. Hill, who has retired. The second such item appears in this issue and deals with a particular scheme of specialisation in the London area: it is by Mr. W.T. Creed, formerly Chief Librarian of Fulham Public Library, and, with Mr. Collison, one of the 'founder-members' of SCOTAPLL. A paper on the British National Book Centre is in hand and will appear within the next few issues; other such descriptions will be published in due course.

A list of new publications, with annotations, was recently received from one of the missionary societies, and came before the Committee. It proved so interesting that the Committee would greatly like to find out what other such material is being issued by members of ABTAPL. Will all members please let the Hon. Editor have copies of publications such as lists of additions, recommended reading, etc., with notes on such details as frequency of publication, and also an indication of whether these lists are available to other libraries on request.

Some time ago it was suggested that some one should be asked to write a paper on schemes of classification suitable for Religion and Philosophy, and as a part of this the Hon. Editor would like to receive information about any special schemes in operation in these fields. At this stage all that is needed is a note of the name of the scheme and where it is being applied. Recommendations about schemes known to exist but apparently not being used will also be appreciated.

In this paper we offer some information about the libraries of the four Scottish universities. This country has been indeed most fortunate in its provision for higher learning through the centuries. St. Andrews was founded in 1411, and the Divinity College, St. Mary's, in 1537; Glasgow in 1451; King's College, Aberdeen, in 1495 and Marischal College in 1593; and finally Edinburgh in 1583; and all have extensive collections of books.

First of all, it should be said in a general way that each university has sections for our two subjects; this is normal and essential for the sake of the students in these departments. In all cases there are Departmental Libraries as well as the General Library; these are mainly working libraries, containing the usual books both old and new required for ordinary classes. All the libraries attempt to keep up to date as far as funds permit. The Inter-Library Loan system operates in them all.

St. Andrews must come first, as the oldest of the Scottish universities. The library is in a sense older than the university, as its history is almost continuous from about 1144, the probable date of the founding of the Priory Library. A few of the MSS. of that Library are still in the University Library. The earlier donations of books came from some outstanding Scotsmen, but credit must also be given to Archbishop Abbot of Canterbury who in 1611 made the first large gift. In 1612 various members of the Royal Family added their quota. The Library was put on a sound footing in 1642 and since then it has grown steadily, so that today it contains over 400,000 volumes, not counting those in the Library of Queen's College, Dundee.

It is not possible to detail all the many treasures to be found here. Many of the MSS. and special collections concern departments other than those under consideration. But among the MSS. may be mentioned two with portions of S. Augustine's works written in the 13th and 14th centuries; Aristotle's Politics in a latin version, 14th century; Cicero's Opera philosophica, c. 1400, and some service books, such as a Psalter c. 1450, a book of Hours, c. 1420, a Gradual, c. 1350, and so on. Among the many Eastern MSS. are some beautifully illuminated copies of the Koran.

Most of the special collections known by the names of the donors contain works in the departments of theology and philosophy. Among the more recent gifts are the collection of Sacred Buddhistic writings presented by the King of Siam in 1896; the Donaldson Library bequeathed by Sir James Donaldson, former Principal, very representative in many subjects but chiefly in theology and classics; and the Baron von Hügel

Library, bequeathed by him in 1926, containing important philosophical works as well as a very extensive correspondence between the Baron and other philosophers. There is a fine collection of Bibles in many languages, containing rare texts and editions. Incunabula number about 150, some of them originally in the Priory Library; the earliest printed book is a copy of S. Augustine's De arte praedicandi, printed in Strassburg by Mentelin, undated, but earlier than 1466. There is also the only complete copy in Scotland of the editio princeps of Aristotle, printed by Aldus. It may be added that the Library is very rich in fine bindings, many bearing early Scottish armorial bookstamps.

The library subscribes to about 80 periodicals devoted to philosophy and more than double that in theology. In the General Library, as distinct from the special collections, there are over 8000 volumes in philosophy and over 24,000 in theology. Mention must be made too of the library of St. Mary's College, which is really a working library with some 2,400 volumes in theology in addition to periodicals.

The second University Library is that of Glasgow. Here again there are many special collections in addition to the General Library and the Departmental Libraries and also the Hunterian Museum Library. The first gifts were given in 1475, but it was only after 1577, the date of the Nova Erectio by James VI, that the Library really began to develop. Early gifts included that of James Boyd, Bishop of Glasgow, who in 1581 bequeathed 48 volumes, chiefly patristic; that of Rev. John Howeson who in 1619 bequeathed 116 volumes, mainly of exegetical and controversial theology; that of James Law, Archbishop of Glasgow, that of Zachary Boyd, minister of the Barony, and so on. And so between gifts and purchases the Library gradually grew to its present large dimensions.

Among the special collections one of the most valuable and interesting is the Euing Collection of Bibles, which numbers about 2000 different editions and comprises versions in about fifty languages. In English versions alone there are some 600 copies of the Bible, 200 of the New Testament, 300 of the Psalter (mostly in metre), and nearly 200 other portions. There are many Polyglots, about 250 Greek versions of which some 180 are of the New Testament, about 190 in Latin, and many other other versions, including Basque, Bohemian, Icelandic, Magyar, and Romansh.

The Hamilton Collection is probably the most important philosophical library in Scotland. Sir William Hamilton, Bart., was Professor of Logic in the University of Edinburgh, and his library was acquired in 1878 at a cost of some £2,000 provided by subscribers. In this collection are about 8000 volumes,

consisting largely of treatises on logic and other branches of philosophy, including many editions of Aristotle and the Aristotelian commentators, as well as of the French metaphysicians, and of Kant and his successors, with the exception of the Hegelian school which is conspicuous by its absence. There are also numerous works on the history of philosophy and of education, on grammar and rhetoric, and on history.

Other more recently acquired collections include a unique group of pamphlets which contains a complete set (with one exception) of the sermons preached before the Long Parliament, collected and presented by James D. Ogilvie, LL.D. The Rev. Alexander Robertson, a probationer of the Free Church of Scotland, bequeathed in 1900 a collection of 3600 volumes and 1800 pamphlets in general theological literature. A fine collection of 760 works on liturgy was presented by the Rev. William McMillan, D.D. Professor William Hastie, D.D., bequeathed in 1903 some 500 volumes of theological and philosophical literature, and 600 volumes on mediaeval philosophy were presented in 1895 from the library of John Veitch, LL.D., Professor of Logic at Glasgow University.

Among the more interesting MSS. are the following in the Hamilton Collection - Ambrosius, Officiorum libri tres (XVth century); Aristoteles, Summulae Logicales (1431); Jean Beridan, Metaphysica (XVth century?), Domenico da Capranica, Cardinale, De Arte bene moriendi (1440). In the General Library the following may be mentioned - Boethius, De consolacione philosophiae (XIVth century), Boece de consolacion lequel Maistre Jehan de Meur translate de latin en francoys (translated in 1483 for the use of Philip IV), Firmianus Lactantius, Divinarum institutionum libri VII; Tractatus de ira Dei; Tractatus de opificio hominis.

In the third place we come to Aberdeen. Bishop Elphinstone founded King's College in 1495 and he and his colleagues presented MSS. and printed books, some of which still survive. Marischal College was founded in 1593 and there too a library came into existence. These two Colleges united in 1860, and at the present time the Library is housed in five different buildings. In King's College are kept the majority of the old books, as well as all books on Arts, Divinity, Botany and Forestry, the subjects taught there: this portion is the only one that concerns us here.

The library now contains over 350,000 books, pamphlets and other catalogued items. There are a large number of MSS. and over 200 incunabula, including some that are not recorded elsewhere. The greatest treasure is the Aberdeen Bestiary, a magnificent illuminated MS. of the 12th century, a sister of the Bodleian MS. Ashmole 1511. Scarcely less splendid is the Book of Hours bequeathed in 1714 by Bishop Gilbert Burnet.

Among the early printed books are many rare items - S. Jerome's Epistles, dated 1470, from Peter Schoeffer's press at Mainz; Caxton's Golden Legend; and one of four existing copies of Bishop Elphinstone's Aberdeen Breviary, 1510. There are also many excellent specimens of early bindings.

One of the earliest large gifts was the bequest by Thomas Reid, Latin Secretary of James VI, of his library of books together with a sum of 6000 merks for the support of a Librarian. This included many MSS., one of them an exquisite vellum, a Hebrew Old Testament written in 1494, with ornaments in gold and colour. The most important collection for our present concern is the Taylor Collection of Psalm Versions, of which there is a printed catalogue (Aberdeen University Studies, No. 85, 1921. 307 pp.) This is very extensive, with complete versions, partial versions, and books relating to the Psalms, in great numbers. It is impossible to give details - the catalogue which is bibliographically very useful should be consulted. W. M. Taylor who made the collection contributed valuable material to the second edition of Julian's Dictionary of hymnology.

Finally we come to the youngest of the Scottish universities, that of Edinburgh founded in 1583. The nucleus of the Library was the library of Clement Litil who died in 1580 and left his books to the Town of Edinburgh. These which numbered about 300 were transferred to the College in 1584. Among these is a copy of the first book printed in St. Andrews - the Catechism of Archbishop Hamilton, and the collection is chiefly on law and theology. Many other bequests and gifts followed, and by gift and purchase the Library has increased till today it contains some 640,000 volumes, including those in Departmental and Class Libraries.

The many important collections in this Library are of great interest. The Clement Litil has already been mentioned. Others in our special field are - the Nairne Bequest, the Library of the Rev. James Nairne of Wemyss in Fife, who died in 1678, leaving about 2000 books, mostly theological, to the College. The Dugald Stewart Collection has about 4000 volumes, the general library of the Dugald Stewart who was Professor of Mathematics (1775-1785) and of Moral Philosophy (1785-1810) in the University, together with additions by his son, which are chiefly devoted to oriental subjects. Other collections of great value are devoted to subjects outside our special interest, such as Celtic Studies, Fine Art, Archaeology, Folk-music and so on.

The library houses a large number of very fine MSS., many of which have been recorded in printed catalogues. There are several valuable Bibles, one bearing the date 1314, written on vellum, with the title, La Saincte Bible avec une commentaire. The illuminations here are very spirited. There is an early printed book of 1485 from Stassburg, Biblia Sacra Germanica, in two volumes with over a hundred woodcuts coloured by a

contemporary hand. An interesting volume contains the Gospels in the Tamil language, written on dried leaves. Among other notable works is a first edition of the works of Servetus dated 1553. The Library possesses three "chained books", one being Fox's Book of Martyrs. There are several ms. Missals, Breviaries, and Books of Hours of great interest; and Incunabula number about 300. But space forbids further examples; the printed catalogues will guide readers in their research.

John A. Lamb, Ph.D., D.D.

[Note: The writer wishes to acknowledge the generous help accorded by the Librarians of these universities.]

Library Science Abstracts

This journal, published quarterly by the Library Association, and now in its ninth year, frequently contains abstracts of items of interest to librarians in ABTAPL. The following are taken from recent issues -

- Vleeschauwer (H.J.de) Seminary methods and seminary library. Mousaion, 13-14, 1957. 119 pp.
- Rodinson (M.) & Pierrot (R.) Le catalogage de la Bible. Bull. des bibliothèques de France, 1(11), Nov. 1956, pp.767-783
- Kapsner (O.L.) The Catholic University of America Library in action. Special libs., 47(7), Sept. 1956, pp.307-313
- Zafren (H.C.) The Hebrew Union College Library (Cincinnati). Special libs., 47(7), Sept. 1956, pp. 314-317
- Fletcher (D.M.) Read a book and sin no more: the early YMCA libraries. Wilson lib. bull., 31(7), Mar.1957, pp.521-2, 528
- Rist (M.) Iliff Theological School Library. Library journal, 81(21), Dec.1, 1956, pp.2786-9
- Martin (D.) Catholic periodical history, 1830-1851. Catholic lib. world, 28(2), Nov. 1956, pp. 74-83

Contributors to the Bulletin of ABTAPL may like to know that this bulletin is abstracted in Library Science Abstracts.

The Carey Kingsgate Press has published British Baptists in China, 1845-1952, by H.R.Williamson (21/-). There is a select bibliography, which includes a section on 'Christian missions in China', followed by a 10-page appendix setting out a list of missionaries of the Baptist Missionary Society in China, from 1845 to 1947.

Philosophy and Religion:

book resources in the Metropolitan Borough libraries.

Since 1945, co-operation between libraries in certain areas has been a feature of considerable interest. Hitherto there had been many schemes for the inter-change and inter-lending of books, but something was lacking. There was no guarantee that somewhere in the area at least one copy of every worth-while book was purchased, however expensive, and that at least one copy of every book in the area was permanently preserved. Library reserve stocks were bursting at the seams because librarians were afraid to discard worthy but rarely-used books without some firm knowledge that they were available elsewhere in case of need. The following notes are an attempt to describe how the problem was tackled in the Metropolitan Borough Libraries of London, with special reference to the subjects of Philosophy and Religion.

The Metropolitan Special Collections Scheme came into being on April 1st, 1948, and covers the area of the twenty-eight Metropolitan Boroughs and the City of London. (The City Guildhall Library is not a lending library but its special reference collections are of course a most valuable asset in judging the library resources of the area). A scheme of subject specialisation was drawn up and each library agreed to provide at one place a wide range of books and periodicals on each subject allocated to it. It was recommended that a sum of not less than £200 per annum be allocated by each borough to this end, over and above existing book provision. It was also an integral part of the scheme that existing reserve stocks be re-distributed throughout London on the basis of the subject allocations and in the early years of the scheme considerable transfers of books took place. For the first time a London librarian could transfer a book no longer in great demand to be held in reserve by the specialising library in the sure knowledge that it would not be discarded and could always be borrowed again. Indeed the nucleus of the special collections as they now exist in London was formed by these transfers of reserve stocks.

The present position then is that all participating libraries are under an absolute obligation to purchase all British books in their allocated subjects, listed in the British National Bibliography costing 12/6d and over, and except in very special cases these are available for loan to the other participating libraries. They also have an obligation to buy other books including older standard works and foreign publications as and when found necessary, and to provide a liberal selection of periodicals within their special fields and to retain them on permanent file. Before discarding any books they are to be offered to the appropriate special collection, to ensure that

at least one copy of every book at present recorded in the London Union Catalogue is permanently preserved.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the Special Collection in each borough should contain every book published in Great Britain since 1948, plus certain overseas publications, a fairly comprehensive collection of older books assembled from the reserve stocks of all the Metropolitan libraries, and a selection of periodicals on permanent file.

The ultimate aim is to make these Special Collections "a separate department in their parent libraries they should meet the needs of the visiting student and not be merely a series of reservoirs of books for inter-library loans". (K.G.Hunt). Present accommodation and accessibility varies from library to library but the interested reader or student may be assured of receiving every possible facility. The majority of readers however will not wish to make a personal visit and full borrowing facilities from these special collections are available through any public library, and not only through those in the Metropolitan area. Most readers are now aware that all the public, and many non-public, libraries are integral parts of a national scheme operating through regional schemes for which the National Central Library acts as the central clearing house, so that with the inevitable exceptions any book in any of the participating libraries is available for loan to any public library or branch or village centre, however remote. True the machinery creaks at times and delays may occur, but may I urge readers to persist in their demands and never to take "NO" for an answer. If a book exists in this country persistent demands will get it to the reader sooner or later. (You may even have to resort to Gilbert Harding tactics!)

The following schedule gives the locations of the Special Collections in London covering Philosophy and Religion. The numbers relate to the Dewey Classification schedules.

100. PHILOSOPHY

- 100-199. Philosophy, Oriental, Ancient and Modern, including such subjects as Aesthetics, Metaphysics, Psychology, Logic and Ethics, at HAMPSTEAD. (Central Library, Finchley Road, N. W. 3.)
- 133-135. The Occult. Mesmerism, Dreams, etc., at BATTERSEA. (Central Library, 265, Lavender Hill, S.W.11.)

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200. RELIGION

- 200-219. Natural Religion, including Deism, Atheism, Theosophy, the Creation, Religion and Science, Immortality, at HAMMERSMITH. (Central Library, Brook Green Road, W.6.)
- 220-259. The Bible, including the Apocrypha. Christian theology, Doctrinal, Devotional, Pastoral at DEPTFORD. (Central Library, Lewisham Way, New Cross, S.E.14.)
- 260-289. The Christian Church, Institutions and Sects. Social Theology. Church Government. Religious Associations. Religious Education. Evangelism. Christian Church History. Religious Orders. Christian Churches and Sects. Primitive, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Non-Conformist, etc. at FULHAM. (Central Library, 598, Fulham Road, S.W.6.)
- 290-299. Non-Christian Religions. Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Mohammedanism, etc. at WESTMINSTER. (Central Reference Library, St. Martin's St., W.C.2.)

W.T. Creed.

[Author's note: This account is concerned with one particular scheme. For information about other such schemes in this country readers are referred to Subject specialisation and co-operative book purchase in the libraries of Great Britain, by K.G. Hunt, 1955. (Library Association Pamphlet no. 12. 3/-).]

Bibliographical note. Civilisations, vol.7, no.4, 1957, is devoted mainly to "Interreligious relationships today". The contents include - Dunstan (J.L.) The Inter-dependence of men and the role of religions; Unitive and divisive factors (cultural and theological) in the Great Religions of the world - Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, [By 4 authors]; Hartt (J.N.) Theological aspects of emerging international, interracial, and interreligious relationships; Hyslop (D.R.) Conditions for new ventures in theological meeting in the light of interreligious relationships; Kraemer (H.) The Role and responsibility of the Christian mission in relation to the multiplicity of men's faith and worship. Civilisations is published by the International Institute of Differing Civilisations.

The Rudolf Steiner Library

Dr. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) was born in Austria and educated at the Real-Schule in Wiener-Neustadt and at the University of Vienna. At the age of 27 he was called to Weimar to edit Goethe's scientific writings for the comprehensive, standard, Weimar edition of Goethe's works. About this time he wrote and published The Theory of Knowledge implicit in Goethe's World Conception, another book called Goethe's Weltanschauung and also a number of writings contained in the book entitled Goethe the Scientist.

He went further into the field of philosophy with his Die Philosophie der Freiheit; Grundlage einer modernen Weltanschauung, published in English under the title The philosophy of Spiritual Activity; also with Riddles of Philosophy which is a comprehensive history of philosophy and its later conflicts with science. Christianity as a Mystical Fact followed Mysticism and Modern Thought (Die Mystik im Aufgang des Neuzeitlichen Geistesleben und modernen Weltanschauung) the contents of which Dr. Steiner had given as lectures in the Theosophical Library in Berlin in 1901 and 1902.

It was as a result of these lectures that he was asked to become General Secretary of the German Section of the Theosophical Society, which he did, but made it clear that he would only give expression to, and lecture on, the results of his own work. Thus came into being his books Theosophy, Occult Science; an Outline and Knowledge of the Higher Worlds and its attainment. The ancient wisdom of the Orient was drawn on in his books The East in the Light of the West and The Bhagavad Gita and the Epistles of St. Paul.

The published lecture cycles on each of the four Gospels, the Apocalypse of St. John and the Biblical Secrets of Creation date from this period. However these proved to be at variance with the dogmas of the Theosophical Society and Dr. Steiner and his followers left it in 1912.

All the books mentioned above and many others in both English and German, some in French and Italian and other translations from Rudolf Steiner are in the library which bears his name at 38, Museum Street, London, W.C.1. which is open from noon to 5 p.m. daily except on Saturdays and Sundays.

There are also many writings on the various arts and sciences, medicine, agriculture, education, social problems and economics, by Dr. Steiner and his followers, many of whom are experts in their particular subjects.

Any one can become a member of this library by subscribing £1 per annum or proportionately less for a shorter period, but in that case a deposit of £1 is required. Alternatively, books can be borrowed through the National Central Library, to which the Rudolf Steiner Library frequently lends books.

Charles Gaze
Hon. Librarian.

